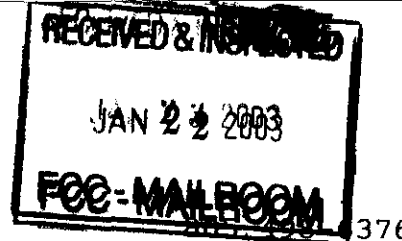


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3930 Greenwood St.
Newbury Park, Calif. 91320-5222
January 15, 2003



Senator Russell Feingold
Senate Office Bldg.
Washington, D.C.

JAN 28 2003
Distribution Center

Dear Senator Feingold,

I watched the Senator Holling's FCC hearing last night on C-Span, but unfortunately I couldn't watch Michael Copps' testimony. The L.A. Times ran a story about Mr. Copps which caught my attention. "FCC Maverick Challenges Chief on Media Rules." Mr. Copps wants a formal hearing on the media. If Mr. Powell refuses Mr. Copps threatens to make a makeshift hearing of his own.

Since the 1996 telecommunications act was passed our TV stations, radio stations have been cluttered with advertising, debased entertainment of the vulgarest sort, public service has gone out the window, news reports have practically vanished from the screen (except for public television and C-Span), Rush Limbaugh commentators have taken over the airwaves, a general deterioration has taken place. I refer you to Haynes Johnson's assessment about what has taken place in the media since the passage of the infamous 1996 telecommunications act in his current book The Best of Times.

According to the news story in the L.A. Times a FCC hearing on the public input on the current status of radio and TV will be held in February.

"In anticipation of the February hearing, Copps is trying to spur public support by linking his two pet issues: media consolidation and indecency and television and radio." Even young children are disrespectful to adults and use profane language which would be unheard of among children years ago. A phenomena which I trace to the media.

The consolidation of the media (television and newspapers) will stifle differences of opinion and stifle honest news reporting. The bottom line has taken over honest news reporting.

"He (Mr. Copps) has argued that media consolidation and corporate ownership of television and radio stations have accelerated the "race to the bottom" in offering sex and violence. Suddenly, his keen interest in maintaining decency doesn't look so old fashioned, experts say."

"If Copps can tap into community outrage over profanity and sex on television and redirect anger at media consolidation,

Chairnman Powell may find more public resistance than he expected, analysts and industry officials say."

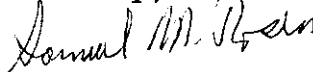
Fron what I saw of the hearings, the commissioners who testified before Mr. Copps were only concerned with the bottom line and now with the miserable fare now being offered on television. (Thank God for public television, NPR and C-Span. Sixty Minutes is still a hold on with us commercial television.)

As former Governor Jerry Brown of California once reminded us, the airwaves belong to the people of the nation. They do not rightfull belong to Ted Turner, Michael Eisner, General Electric, Rupert Murdoch, et al. It's time for the airwaves to be returned to the people of this nation.

Mr. Johnson in his book The Best of Times reports there was a time that radio and TV stations were obligated to give public service in their programming in order to have their licenses renewed. This concept has practically disappeared in the wind.

I hope and pray that Mr. Copps' public hearings take place, and I'm certain that you and Senator Feingold will monitor the situation and take Mr. Copps' concerns to heart. You two seem to have your fingers on the nation's pulse.

Sincerely,


Samuel M. Rosen

cc: Senator Barbara Boxer

Mr Copps

*Could please have a listing of the members of the
Commission?*